

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 03942 181351Z

65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 SEC-01 /067 W

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R 181317Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3605

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, MPOL, TU, IT

SUBJECT: PRESS LINKS ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO ANKARA TO LOCKHEED CASE
IN ITALY

REF: ANKARA 3639

1. BASED ON A THA (TURKISH NEWS SERVICE) REPORT DATELINED ROME, TURKISH NEWSPAPERS TODAY ALL REPORTED THAT THE CURRENT ITALIAN AMBASSADOR GIROLAMO MESSERI IS THE EX-ITALIAN SENATOR WHOSE NAME HAS BEEN KEPT SECRET IN ITALIAN LOCKHEED CASE THUS FAR.

2. MESSERI HAS BEEN IN TURKISH PRESS BEFORE, NOTABLY WHEN GENERAL ALPKAYA CASE ROKE IN MARCH, 1976. (SEE REFERENCE AND PREVIOUS). AT THAT TIME, PICTURES OF MESSERI HANDING A \$30,000 CHECK FROM AERITALIA TO GENERAL ALPKAYA FOR LICE EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS WERE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED IN TURKISH PRESS. THERE WAS NO SUGGESTION, HOWEVER, THAT MESSERI'S ROLE IN PRESENTING THE CHECK WAS IMPROPER IN ANY WAY.

3. COMMENT: MESSERI IS CURRENTLY IN ITALY. AFTER TALKING WITH MESSERI BY PHONE, ITALIAN EMBASSY CATEGORICALLY DENIES TRUTH OF PRESS REPORTS. ITALIAN EMBASSY SPOKESMAN SAID ITALIAN PRESS HAS BEEN SLADERING MESSERI AND HE HAS FILED MORE THAN 20

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SUITS AGSINST VARIOUS REPORTERS AND NEWS-

PAPERS. THA STORY WAS ALLEGEDLY BASED ON THESE RUMORS WHICH
HAVE BEEN CIRCULATING IN ROME.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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